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buccal cells (APF test) for the detection of RA specific autoantibodies. 412 human sera are tested: 153 disease controls (1), 47 sera from patients with early disease (less than 12 months of symptoms) (2) and 212 longstanding [RA) (2) and 212 longstanding] RA sera (more than 4 years of symptoms) (3).

## At page 10, please amend the paragraph spanning lines 17 - 26 to read:

In a more specific embodiment the present invention relates to peptides described above characterised in that they have one of the following primary amino acid structures:

- 8 AA Cysteine 2 AA Citrulline 3 AA Cysteine 2 AA (SEQ ID NO: 1) or  $T_{ype} I$
- 5 AA Cysteine 2 AA Citrulline 3 AA Cysteine 2 AA (SEQ ID NO: 2) or
- 4 AA Cysteine 2 AA Citrulline 3 AA Cysteine 2 AA (SEQ ID NO: 3) or
- 8 AA Cysteine 2 AA Citrulline 1 AA Cysteine 4 AA (SEQ ID NO: 4) or Tyle II
- 6 AA Cysteine 2 AA Citrulline 1 AA Cysteine 4 AA (SEQ ID NO: 5) or
- 4 AA Cysteine 2 AA Citrulline 1 AA Cysteine 4 AA (SEQ ID NO: 6).

At page 12, please amend Table 1 to read:

04.

[	Position	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	1
1	/ IGP1611 (SEQ ID NO: 7)	Q	D	Т	Ī	H	G	Н	P	C	S.	Х	Х	G <sub>.</sub>	H.	R <sub>.</sub>	C	G	Y	J. 690
نسر	IGP1646(SEQ ID NO: 8)	Q	D	T	Ī	H	G	H	P	С	S	s	Х	G	Н	R	С	G	Y	I 6 40
1	IGP1647(SEQ ID NO: 9)	Q	D	Т	1	Н	G	H	P	С	s	X	X	G	Н	Q	С	G	Y	ICA
	IGP1648(SEQ ID NO: 10)	Q	D	T	I	Н	G	Н	P	C	S	X	X	G .	H	R	С	G	Q	I6 4
	IGP1649(SEQ ID NO: 11)	Q	D	T	I	Н	G	Н	P	C	<u>s</u>	X.	X_	G.	H <sub>.</sub>	Q	С	G	Q	IC. 6
_	IGP1650(SEQ ID NO: 12)	Q	D	T	I	H	G	Н	P	С	S.	Χ.	Χ,	G,	С	R	P	G	Y	15 4 as
ا	IGP1651(SEQ ID NO: 13)		+	+	<del>                                     </del>	H	G	H	P	С	S.	X.	x	Ģ	H.	R.	С	G	Y	I C.
	IGP1676(SEQ ID NO: 14)	<del>                                     </del>		╁	╁╴	H	G	Н	P	С	S	Х	X.	G	C	R	P	G	Y	I. 40
	IGP1687(SEQ ID NO: 15)	<del> </del>	+-	+	-	Н	G	Н	G	С	D	X	X	G.	Н	R	С	G	Q	I 6~
	IGP1684(SEQ ID NO: 16)	╁	╁	+	╁	Н	G	Н	G	c	D	S	X	G	Н	R	С	G	Q	生 6~
	IGP1685(SEQ ID NO: 17)	Q	D	T	I	v	G	w	G	C	D	S.	X	G	С	R	P	G	Q	I yua
	IGP1686(SEQ ID NO: 18)	╁	+-	+-	+	v	G	w	G	C	D.	S.	x	G	C	R	P	G	Q	I Yau

## At page 14 spanning page 15, please amend the final paragraph to read:

Further analysis of the different peptide structures described above revealed additional specific interactions between residues, which are a prerequisite for immunoreaction of the designed peptides with autoantibodies present in sera from patients suffering from rheumatoid arthritis. This can be described as follows:

a) Type I peptides: Cys – six residues – Cys:

8 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA - Citrulline - 3 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA (SEQ ID NO: 1) or

5 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA - Citrulline - 3 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA (SEQ ID NO: 2) or

4 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA - Citrulline - 3 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA (SEQ ID NO: 3).

At page 17, lines 12 - 16, please amend the paragraph to read:

b) Type II peptides: Cys – four residues – Cys peptides:

8 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA - Citrul ine - 1 AA - Cysteine - 4 AA (SEQ ID NO: 4) or

6 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA - Citrulline - 1 AA - Cysteine - 4 AA (SEQ ID NO: 5) or

4 AA - Cysteine - 2 AA - Citrulline \( \)1 AA - Cysteine - 4 AA (SEQ ID NO: 6).

At page 31 spanning page 32, please amend Table 4 to read:

	-	T	-	1-	1	1	15.5	-	_	10	T = 2	137	I a	17.7	ID.	10	10	137
IGP1611 (SEQ ID NO: 7)	Q	D	T	H	Н	G	Н	P	C	S	X	X	G	Н	R		G	Y
IGP1646(SEQ ID NO: 8)	Q	D	T	I	Н	G	Н	P	C	S	S	X	G	Н	R	С	G	Y
IGP1647(SEQ ID NO: 9)	Q	D	T	I	Н	G	Н	P	С	S	X	X	G	Н	Q	С	G	Y
IGP1648(SEQ ID NO: 10)	Q	D	T	I	Н	G	Н	P	С	S	X	Х	G	Н	R	С	G	Q
IGP1649(SEQ ID NO: 11)	Q	D	T	I	Н	G	Н	P	С	S	X	X	G	Н	Q	С	G	Q
IGP1650(SEQ ID NO: 12)	Q	D	T	Ī.	Н	G	Н	P	С	S	Х	X	G	C	R	P	G	Υ
IGP1651(SEQ ID NO: 13)					Ĥ	G	Н	P	С	S	Х	Х	G	Н	R	С	G_	Y
IGP1676(SEQ ID NO: 14)					Н	G	Н	P	С	S	X	X	G	С	R	P	G	Y
IGP1687(SEQ ID NO: 15)					Н	G	Н	G	С	D	Х	X	G	Н	R	С	G	Q
IGP1684(SEQ ID NO: 16)					Н	G	Н	G	С	D	S	X	G	Н	R	С	G	Q
IGP1685(SEQ ID NO: 17)	Q	D	T	I	٧	G	W,	G	С	D	S	X	G	C	R	P	G	Q
IGP1686(SEQ ID NO: 18)					V	G	W	G	С	D	S	X	G	С	R	P	G	Q

